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NSC BRIEFING

WESTERN DIVISION

DRAFT

23 February 1955

WEST GERMAN ATTITUDES TOWARD PARIS TREATIES

- I. Despite the increasing political tension, ratification of the Paris accords on 24-26 February appears likely.
  - A. Saar section--to which some coalition members opposed--will probably pass by narrowest margin. Since this is part of "package" whole, danger of defeat for Adenauer is concentrated here.
- II. Ideas concerning the ultimate uses of the treaty vary considerably with different West German political factions.
  - A. All West German politicians see ratification chiefly as an avenue to sovereignty with the increased rights and privileges of dealing with the West and particularly the Soviet Union regarding the German destiny.
  - B. Although ostensibly engaged in <sup>an</sup> ~~an~~ all-out effort against ratification, most Socialist deputies will be glad to see the treaties passed.
    1. These Socialists see the possibility of a Sovereign West Germany's bargaining with the USSR for reunification by offering its own neutralization, overthrowing, eventually, the military alliance with the West in favor of some kind of amorphous international "third force."
  - C. Adenauer's smaller coalition parties, the Free Democrats and the Refugee Party, and German Party, see the possibilities of bargaining for reunification from the

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added strength of the West and utilizing an increasing German independence from the West as a lever for future maneuvers toward reunification.



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NSC REPORTING

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23 February 1955

## WEST GERMANY AND PARIS TREATIES

### I. Bundestag debate begins Thurs., 24 Feb.

- A. Saar section is danger for Adenauer.
- B. Effect of Soviet anti-ratification campaign probably to strengthen Adenauer.

### II. Attitudes.

- A. All West German politicians see ratification chiefly as avenue to sovereignty.
- B. Socialists see possibility of Sovereign West Germany's bargaining with the USSR for reunification by offering neutralization.
- C. Smaller coalition parties, the Free Democrats and the Refugee Party, and German Party, look to bargaining for reunification from the added strength of West, and using increasing German dependence from West as lever for maneuvers toward reunification.

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